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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: August 2, 2004

TO: Examiner Stuart L. HENDRICKSON
Group Art Unit 1754
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/857,490
Entitled: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF CARBON BLACK
Our Ref.: 97116CIP (3600-340)

FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. *LK*

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-703-872-9306

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 18

Items Attached: Request for Continued Examination Transmittal -- 1 page
Fee Transmittal -- 1 page
Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time -- 1 page
Copy of Amendment dated June 2, 2004 -- 14 pages

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-703-872-9306 on August 2, 2004.

Donald S. Prater
Name (Print)

Donald S. Prater
Signature

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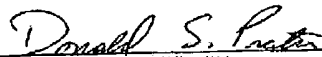
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**Expedited Procedure Requested
Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116****OFFICIAL****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Rumpf et al.

Application No.: 09/857,490

Filed: June 1, 2001

Docket No.: 97116CIP (3600-340)

Examiner: Stuart L. Hendrickson

Group Art Unit: 1754

Confirmation No.: 5371

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF CARBON BLACK

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 2, 2004

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the final Office Action dated March 2, 2004, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before June 2, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.